മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ :കൂടുതൽ ജനസംഖ്യയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലേക്ക് കൂടുതൽ മെമ്പർ മാരെ കൊടുക്കാമെന്നുള്ളതുപോലെ ഗവൺമെന്റ് സഹികരിക്കാം.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: No useful purpose will be served in investigation of past actions. I do not know the population of Melur Village increased so much. Many people from other places have come there. I am thankful for the assurance given by the Hon'ble Minister. I beg leave of the House to withdraw the resolution.

Resolution, by leave, withdrawn

RESOLUTION No. 13

Plans and Steps to tackle the possible postwar problems

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution.—

"This Council recommends to Government that plans may be laid down and steps taken for tackling the possible post-war problems of the State."

I do not think this is a matter which ought to be sniffed at in so cavalier a manner. We find it is acknowledged all over the world that out of the turmoil and the welter of the present struggle may loom out a new world with new problems. From President Roosevelt to Marshial Chiang Kai Sheik, from Panama to Peking this is accepted by all thinking men. Every country is visualising the possibilities and trembling at the disastrous consequences of inattention to this question. In England the Beveridge Plan has come out. National Security Plans are coming out, all kinds of plans for granting us security against the four fears are also looming up. As to how far Cochin will be affected by post-war problems is easy to see. We have several thousands of youg men in distant lands serving in the Military and several thousands more of young men who serve in Assam. There are a good number of other people engaged in the war supply industries. Take for example even the timber trade and the nail making industry. There are several other industries which are entirely dependant upon war demands and the continuation of the war. The result is easy to see. When the war stops, and stop it must, immediately all these problems will rise up without any other outside agency. All the young men who have gone to the front will be returning after seeing distant lands and after having imbibed new ideas and ideals of Socialism, Communism and Bolshevism and if you do not meet their aspirations, I do not think that Cochin will be a quiet place. Therefore I say do not sniff at this. In England today as at present obtaining, they have got insurance against old age and insurance against unemployment. If you analyse the Beveridge scheme you will find that everybody is to be guaranteed work and food and that guarantee has been given by the President of the United States of America. That is the accepted position today. I say how are you going to provide all those who will be returning and all those who will be thrown out of employment in the Cochin State itself? Take for instance the A.R.P. Organisation. How many of our people are employed in it now? All these people will be sent away after the war. I am only citing one example. This is a vast and complicated problem and mind you, all these problems are not coming to you with due notice. They are going to come upon you suddenly like a thunder-clap. I ask you the question if all these young men are returning and if all the men employed here are thrown out of their employment, what will be the position? Is there sufficient employment for all the people who are returning? Certainly not. There will be the food problem. There will be no employment for the people who will return. You must remember that about a lakh of our people are now being fed in foreign lands. When they return the food problem becomes all the more greater. You cannot elongate the land. You cannot widen it. You want a Parasurama for that. If these problems are going to decend upon you suddenly like a deluge, should you not be prepared for that. It is a world problem, it is an all India question. But it is particularly a Cochin problem. All India problems will be solved by an All India Committee, but the peculiar problems relating to Cochin will have to be solved by the Cochin State itself. Therefore I say go into these questions and be prepared to tackle them. Otherwise the consequences may be disastrous. There is no use crying after the disaster. This is what has been in my mind and I gave this resolution prominence and precedence among my other resolutions. It is not for me now immediately to suggest all the ways and methods. There are numerous possibilities. For example we have got a large area of forest land. More than half of Cochin is forestland. Clear part of the forests and plant it and if you are afraid of denudation of forests, then plant those forests with only trees like Cinchona, Rubber and the like. I say develop the planting industry.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Grow more timber. Take to a system of planned irrigation works and cause the rivers flow according to your directions. Make them your servants. Today we find all the water flowing into the backwaters. Irrigate all the *parambas as* they are being done in Chittur and convert them into rich pleasant paddy fields. Husband all your strength, gather all your young men and make them work and thus try to tide over the period. To me it appears that it is not a simple problem. It is a very serious problem. Any Government which does not attempt to tackle this problem today is not worth its name and is not worth the salt it eats. Therefore I commend the resolution to the unanimous acceptance of the House.

* **Mr. A. V. Moothedan** *(Chalakkudi)*: Sir, In seconding this motion I wish to make one or two remarks. My friend, the esteemed member for planters, has been suggesting post-war economic problems and probably my friend had in view the Beveridge Report and the plans conceived by the British Government. But our conditions are entirely different. They have got complete democracy and their polititcal developments are complete. There they have only to consider economic questions. But so far as our State is concerned and India is concerned, one of the most outstanding developments will be the question of granting full independence for India and I think the British Government will grant us Swaraj. Then the question arises what will be our position then. I am considering the political reforms after the war where as my friend is considering the economic problems of the State after the war is over. Political development and advancement will be more important so far as our State is concerned and that when India gets her complete independence the question that we have to consider is what will be our position. Then can we have one minister like the present? We must have full responsible Government and I know Mr. Salem will fully support me in that effort. Therefore what I say is Government have to consider the question of granting full responsible Government to us taking into account their duties to the Paramount Power. First we have got all our local problems like this. After considering all these things then only our economic questions come up. There is no hurry now to consider the economic problems. The first and foremost is the political problem.

The Chief Secretary is hearing all these things. He will bear in mind all these remarks and when he has leisure he may consider about the economic problems of the State. No files are required for this. Whenever he has leisure he can think over the matter.

Therefore the first question is that we must have full responsible Government for Cochin after the war is over. We are not satisfied with one Minister. We must have a council of ministers responsible to the legislature for the administration of the State. We must have no Diwan after the war.

Another thing that I have to say is this. After this war we do not want these special communal electorates. The system of special communal electorates should be done away with. We were living in the State very amicably and friendly before. But now with the introduction of the system of special communal electorates all sorts of rivalry between communities have risen up. Before the 4th Council there were no communal feelings. But now all sorts of communal wrangles have cropped up. Take for instance the depressed class converts question. This House has become more and more communal on account of this. The reason is the introduction of the special communal electorate system. Therefore no person with progressive ideas will support this. Every body should have, irrespective of the community to which he belongs, the right to elect a member to the Council. The elections to the Council should not be a mere sectarian business. All people should be interested.

Regarding the economic problem I have to say that it is not an easy matter. It is a very wide question and affecting the whole world. Our State is only small and we will not be able to tackle this question in a satisfactory manner. After the war is over people will certainly be going as before to Java, Burma and other places. This is an international question and we shall wait and see what others are doing. Therefore with these observations I support the resolution moved by my friend, Mr. Mathai.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: This is the only resolution that gives a chance to speak something about post-war problems. We have enough of problems at present which we are unable to tackle successfully, and in the midst of that, my friend wants us to tackle problems that come after the war. The immediate problem and the everlasting problem is the problem of food, clothes and habitation. These three problems exist always with us, whether post-war time, present times, and it existed in past times. The tackling of these problems is the main occupation of the world. And how have we tackled them? Sometimes by an irrational way

*Speech not corrected by the hon'ble member.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

of tackling rationing. If this rationing continues everybody can get their food. What is the way in which the Civil Supplies Commissioner will ration? In the Municipalities, he will find out what is the rental paid of this house and that. If the house is paying only Rs. 8 he will get only a small quantity of food. If the rental is Rs. 50 he will get a larger quantity. In a house which pays a rental of Rs. 8 there may be 20 people, whereas in a house which pays a rental of Rs. 50 the inmates may be two or three. There are 4 problems of which one is freedom from want. That is one of the post-war problems that we have to solve. Everybody must have his wants satisfied. President Roosvelt said we are fighting for one of these freedoms, freedom from want. It applies to the whole world. You take him at his word. That is one problem that is being solved. Therefore don't put anyone in want of sugar, when he wants sugar. So, have a little more reasoning in distribution.

Deputy President: If the Hon'ble Members are using this resolution for ventilating their grievances, the Chair will have to insist upon the time limit.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* The freedom from fear is another freedom that is coming into the world. One need not fear the officials. The next one is freedom of expression. All the bans must go. All the bans against the meetings must go. Your mouth should be opened. Everything under the sun is under the Defence of India Act. So that must go. Free expression must come. Therefore these are the problems that are to be tackled. My friend's apprehension is that people will come back to the State. One lakh of people who work temporarily will have no employment after the war. Alright, let them come here. If they want freedom they must work. Everybody must have opportunity to rise to the highest stature possible. All things are coming into the world. Your Government does not know how to tackle those problems. I recommend this proposition for the consideration of the Government. I don't think it is necessary for the House to press it to a division. These are things to take place in time and people would have to solve these themselves. We have discussed all these things before in the House and I may bring in this New Council a similar plan. Everybody should have money in their pockets. Everybody should get a pension. Every orphan should get a pension. Everybody working also should get their pay. Is that a complete solution? If my plan is accepted, there will be bales of money in the treasury. Supposing an employer makes a contribution from his pay at the rate of half an anna per rupee and if the employee also is compelled to pay half an anna, all these amounts will go to the treasury. From that these pensions should be distributed on an adequate scale. It is nobody's money. So, if a man dies, his widow will get a pension. He is quite happy. In a factory of one thousand people, if you compel the employees to pay at the rate of half an anna per rupee earned as a contribution out of their pay and the employer also to contribute half an anna, it will be for the benefit of their own children; and for the benefit of their country. Government of Cochin nowadays, in regard to the food question, are rapidly changing their rules. Prices are changing from day to day, methods are changing, rapidly changing. Officials are changing. They are trying to do their best under difficult circumstances. That is the reason why I have not tabled a single question or resolution in this Council this session, but I hope they would kindly take a little advice, given privately. I submit that this is not a proposition that should come before the Council now and would ask my Hon'ble friend kindly not to press it, but withdraw it if possible.

***Rama Varmha Tampuran** *(Secretary to Government):* Of course, the resolution is very comprehensive and it would look as if it is a complicated one. But it is really a most practical of all practical propositions. Really, there is a proverb that "when we are in the present we are likely to forget the future". We should not forget the future even though we are prominently in the present and there is no doubt that it is time enough that every important institution thinks of what would happen after the war. All the important worldwide Governments like the United States and Great Britain have already begun to think very seriously of questions of this kind. The Government of India in their own way have appointed a committee and they have also held several meetings and held long deliberations over questions allied with this and though probably these questions in the more general form will be the subject for discussion in such meetings minor problems arising out of general questions of that kind will certainly have to be solved by individual States like ours. There is no doubt about that. When all the labour that has gone out of the State at present either to Assam, Egypt or elsewhere return, certainly they will have to be looked after and Government will have to do it in such a way that there is no discontent prevailing in the country. Government will have to think of ways and means to achieve that end. How exactly to have that done and what would have been the situation at the time when

*Speech not corrected by the hon'ble member.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

the labour will be returning and what would be the real situation at that time are things that cannot be foreseen exactly now. We might more or less keep the point so-to-say in mind and just leave things for the time being where they are. We might keep things in mind and do some preliminary work in the matter of the improvement of irrigation, and plans of that kind, and when the actual moment comes and when something more has to be done, we can by utilising all our resources find a way out. We are resourceful enough for that purpose and we have always been able to meet situations as they emerge. I do not think any more marked assurance is called for from the Government on this question. The question is certainly very important and Government are alive to the implications raised by the resolution.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* I do not think I am called upon to meet the argument of Mr. Salem, "I am satisfied if I get sugar": It represents an epicurean mentality. What was the argument he advanced? Nobody can understand it. What a wonderful relief from Mr. Salem to the Hon'ble Secretary to Government! There was practically no opposition raised to this matter at all. Though there is general agreement on this point, I thought Government may bestow their thoughts upon this question. That is the object with which I tabled this motion. Since there is general agreement, I believe Government will accept it.

Resolution, put and carried

RESOLUTION No. 14

Shifting of the Anchal Office at Chalakkudi

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* I move that "*The Council recommends to Government that the Anchal Office at Chalakkudi may be shifted to a central place in the Bazaar, thereby releasing the present Anchal Office building for the office of the Deputy Inspector of Schools to be created shortly.*"

The Anchal Office at Chalakkudi is situated in a corner of the town. The busy part of the town is in one place and the Anchal Office is about one mile from there. I have brought this subject before in the form of questions and resolutions and the people of the locality have also sent petitions requesting Government to shift the Anchal Office to a central place for the convenience of the business people. Regarding the latter part of the resolution I do not press it. The present Anchal Office building may be utilised for any purpose Government think fit. It may either be rented but it cannot be used as an Anchal Office. So, I request Government to kindly look into the matter and shift the Anchal Office to a central place.

Mr. K. S. Panicker *(Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram):* Is there any Anchal Office at Meloor?

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* No.

Mr. K. S. Panicker *(Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram):* Then it can be shifted to Meloor.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* It has been where it is now for the last 30 years and Government are reliably informed that if it is changed suddenly from where it is now, it is likely to be protested very strongly by the people of the locality. Therefore Government regret that they cannot accede to the request.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* There are so many things in Chalakkudi which are removed. For instance the trunk road which has been there for the last 30 years. It is now changed. The Anchal Office was started under the existing conditions then. Now conditions are changed. Chalakkudi is changing. I wonder what the Hon'ble Member for Mukundapuram Ezhuvas has to say to shift it to Meloor. I request Government to reconsider the matter. The people have sent petitions to the Superintendent of Registration and Anchal before. The Finance Member knows it. He has received the petitions himself for shifting the Anchal Office. I know the difficulties of people there. I will be very glad if it is shifted to Meloor. But I do not want that. Meloor is not a big place. I do not want to press this motion. I request the Government to reconsider the matter.

Resolution, by leave withdrawn

RESOLUTION No. 15

Legislation for stopping begging, etc.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* I move that "*This Council recommends to Government that appropriate legislation may be passed whereby begging shall be stopped and disabled beggars may be maintained and able beggars made to work in work-houses by each local authority so far as the beggars within the area of their authority are concerned and that vagrant beggars may be transported to their respective places of origin*"

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly